

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON IMMUNIZATION PRACTICES

VACCINES FOR CHILDREN PROGRAM

INFLUENZA

VACCINES TO PREVENT INFLUENZA

This resolution makes the following substantive changes to the previous influenza vaccine resolution:

1. *Adds additional eligible groups:*
 - a. *Children aged 6 months through 23 months*
 - b. *Children aged 2 years through 18 years who are household contacts of children aged less than two years.*
2. *Clarifies the recommended influenza vaccine schedule and dosage intervals.*
3. *Reference to whole-virus influenza vaccine, no longer available in the United States, is deleted.*

VFC resolution 10/98-4 is repealed and replaced by the following:

Eligible Groups

Children aged 6 months through 23 months.

Children and adolescents aged 6 months through 18 years with chronic disorders of the pulmonary or cardiovascular systems, including asthma.

Children and adolescents aged 6 months through 18 years who have required regular medical follow-up or hospitalization during the preceding year because of chronic metabolic diseases (including diabetes mellitus), renal dysfunction, hemoglobinopathies, or immunosuppression (including immunosuppression caused by medications).

Children and adolescents aged 6 months through 18 years who are receiving long-term aspirin therapy and may therefore be at risk for developing Reye syndrome after influenza.

Children and adolescents aged 2 through 18 years who are household contacts of persons in high-risk groups (e.g., persons aged 65 years or older, transplant recipients, persons with AIDS, and children aged less than 2 years).

Children and adolescents aged 6 months through 18 years who are residents of nursing homes and other chronic-care facilities that house persons at any age who have chronic medical conditions.

Adolescent females aged <19 years who will be in the second or third trimester of pregnancy during influenza season.

Recommended Inactivated Influenza Vaccine Schedule

Age Group*	Number of doses
6 months - 8 years	1 or 2¶
>8 years	1

* Fluvirin™ purified surface antigen vaccine (Evans Vaccines, Ltd.) is approved for use only among persons aged ≥4 years.

¶ Two doses are recommended for children <9 years of age who are receiving influenza vaccine for the first time.

Recommended Dosage Intervals

Vaccine	Minimum Age*	Minimum interval dose 1 to 2 (where applicable) ¶
Influenza, inactivated	6 months	28 days

* Fluvirin™ purified surface antigen vaccine (Evans Vaccines, Ltd.) is approved for use only among persons aged ≥4 years.

¶ Two doses are recommended for children <9 years of age who are receiving influenza vaccine for the first time.

Recommended Dosages

Refer to product package inserts.

Contraindications and Precautions

The following conditions are contraindications to administration of influenza vaccine:

1. **Allergy to vaccine components**
Anaphylactic reaction to the vaccine or a constituent of the vaccine (e.g. eggs).
2. **Moderate or severe illnesses with or without fever**
Persons with moderate or severe illness should be immunized as soon as they have recovered from the acute phase of the illness. Minor illnesses (e.g., upper respiratory tract infection, allergic rhinitis) with or without fever should not contraindicate the use of influenza vaccine.

The following conditions are precautions to receipt of influenza virus vaccine:

1. **History of Guillain-Barré Syndrome following influenza vaccination**
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Adopted: June 20, 2002

Effective: March 1, 2003 for vaccine to be administered in the 2003-04 and subsequent influenza vaccination seasons.